

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph 0049 with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

A [0049] The stem portion 14 is actually comprised of ~~two~~ three distinct sections: a proximal section 14A, a middle section 14B, and a distal section 14C. It is envisioned that the stem portion 14 can be defined by a single region with a varying radius. As best seen in Figures 2-5, the cross-section has a generally elliptical shape. Those skilled in the art will understand that the cross-section can also be circular or another appropriate shape.

Please replace Paragraph 0052 with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

A2 [0052] The distal section 14C, is a section where the respective radii of the lateral surface L and medial surface M of the proximal section 14A converge together towards the distal end portion 20. However, instead of converging together to form a point along ~~the~~ a longitudinal axis X of the stem portion 14, the respective radii converge so as to form a distal arc taper portion 14C. The benefit of the distal arc taper section 14C is that it prevents subsidence of the femoral insert 10 and prevents point loading of the distal end of the femoral insert. The radii of the lateral surface L and medial surface M of the stem 14 substantially converge along the distal portion 14C so as to form a substantially arcuate configuration tangential to the proximal portion 14A.